

REMARKS

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Office Action dated July 21, 2004 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended and new claims 4 and 5 have been added. Claims 1-5 are currently pending. The Applicant respectfully requests reexamination and reconsideration.

The Applicant has amended the specification as noted above. Support for the amendments to paragraph [0026] may be found in Figure 5, which was originally filed with the pending application. Support for the amendments to paragraph [0027] may be found in originally filed claim 3 of the pending application.

The Applicant has amended Figure 5 to include reference labels “A”. Support for these amendments may be found in paragraph [0027], lines 12-15 of the originally filed specification. In addition, the Applicant has amended a typographical error where the label “termperature” in Figure 5 has been corrected to read “temperature”.

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,158,148 to *Krausch* (hereinafter “*Krausch*”). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, “the reference must teach every element of the claim.” The Applicant respectfully submits that *Krausch* does not teach every element recited in claim 1. In particular, claim 1 recites a laundry dryer control method comprising, among other features, “calculating an overall drying time based on the measured temperature variation rate; and performing the drying procedure for the calculated overall drying time.” *Krausch* does not disclose these features. Therefore, *Krausch* cannot anticipate claim 1. *Krausch* is directed towards interrupting a drying

procedure and initiating a shutdown procedure on the verge of an impermissible operating state, such as a clogged filter. In addition, *Krausch* discloses determining a differential value based on two detected temperature values and comparing this value with a predetermined differential value. According to *Krausch*, if the differential value is greater than the predetermined differential value, then a counting value is incremented by one. A heater is turned off or an operating state display is activated based on a counting value. See Abstract and col. 5, line 20 - col. 6, line 26. *Krausch* does not disclose calculating an overall drying time based on a measured temperature variation rate and performing a drying procedure for the calculated overall drying time. In fact, *Krausch* discloses the exact opposite, namely turning off a heater, that is, terminating a drying process based on a temperature value. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that *Krausch* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, as required under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), and requests that the rejection be withdrawn. For at least the same reasons, the Applicant submits that claim 2, which depends from claim 1, is also allowable over *Krausch*.

In addition, the Office Action rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Krausch*. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

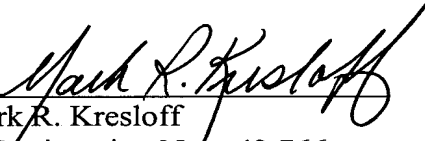
As required in Chapter 2143.03 of the M.P.E.P., in order to “establish *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention, all the limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.” As previously discussed, *Krausch* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, from which claim 3 depends. Therefore, the Applicant submits that *Krausch* fails to teach or suggest all the elements recited in claim 3 as required under 35 USC § 103(a). Accordingly, the Applicant submits that claim 3 is patentable over *Krausch* under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Applicant believes the application is in a condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 21, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to Fig 5. This sheet replaces the original Fig. 5.

Attachment: Replacement sheet
 Annotated sheet showing changes

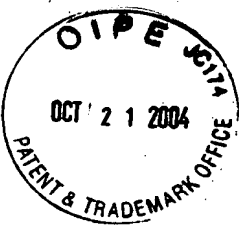


FIG. 5

